

Authority E.O. 12958  
By W NARA Date 5/18/02

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

2178X

~~TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

ACTION

April 19, 1973 -

*Dynes (Richardson)  
intified.  
RD*

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

FROM: Helmut Sonnenfeldt

SUBJECT: US Assistance to the French Missile Program

Your memorandum of March 9 (Tab C) gave the Secretary of Defense the President's instructions with regard to interim assistance to France pending completion and Presidential review of the NSSM 175 study on this issue.

Secretary Richardson has sent the cable at Tab B to France's new Defense Minister Galley advising him of the new areas involved in the US-French program and noting the meetings that are being scheduled to permit implementation.

I am concerned that this sensitive material is filtering through so many desk-level hands at State and Defense and that it is being handled as normal State Department traffic, the classification notwithstanding, to Embassy Paris.

I think it would be useful if you were to remind Richardson to handle this issue as discreetly as possible. The memorandum for your signature at Tab A would do this.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to Richardson at Tab A.

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12958, Sect. 3.6  
NLN 00-01/15 DOS lls 4-1-02  
W NARA, Date 4-23-02

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XGDS (3)  
DECLAS Indeterminate  
BY AUTH Henry A. Kissinger

Authority E012958  
By WNARA Date 5/18/72

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: US Assistance to the French  
Missile Program

With reference to State's outgoing telegram of April 17 containing the text of your letter to Galley, it would seem best -- considering the sensitivity of the issues involved -- if future communications to the French on this subject were handled directly with your French counterpart.

Henry A. Kissinger

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XGDS (3)  
DECLAS Indeterminate  
BY AUTH Henry A. Kissinger

Authority E012958  
By W NARA Date 5/18/82

COPY 10 OF 15 COPIES

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Department of State

WH  
TELETYPE

O 172335Z APR 73 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 1664  
BT  
~~TOP SECRET~~ STATE 071935

CONTROL: 5 4 9 8Q

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS 3  
TAGS: MARR, FR, US  
SUBJECT: TEXT OF RICHARDSON/GALLEY LETTER

FOR AMBASSADOR IRWIN

1. AS AGREED IN YOUR MEETING WITH MR. LLOYD LAST WEEK, TEXT OF LETTER FROM SECRETARY RICHARDSON TO MINISTER GALLEY FOLLOWS FOR YOU TO LEAVE WITH HIM IN COURSE OF YOUR INITIAL CALL ON 18 APRIL. REALIZE TITLE IN ADDRESS WAS THAT HELD BY DEBRE BUT ORIGINAL WAS SIGNED AND DISPATCHED ON 16 APRIL.

2. QUOTE HONORABLE ROBERT GALLEY, MINISTRE D'ETAT CHARGE DE LA DEFENSE NATIONALE, 14 RUE ST. DOMINIQUE, PARIS 7, FRANCE, DEAR M. GALLEY: PLEASE ACCEPT MY CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW APPOINTMENT. AS YOU KNOW, IT WAS NOT TOO LONG AGO THAT I TOOK OVER THE ANALOGOUS POST IN OUR GOVERNMENT. UPON ASSUMING MY DUTIES, I WAS GRATIFIED TO LEARN OF THE EXTENT OF BILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS AND OF THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE DEFENSE AREA. YOUR PREDECESSOR, M. DEBRE, AND MINE, MR. LAIRD, HAVE LEFT A LEGACY OF EFFECTIVE COOPERATION WHICH I TRUST WILL CONTINUE.

3. AS YOU BEGIN YOUR NEW DUTIES, I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT I WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE PROJECTS AND DISCUSSIONS ALREADY UNDERWAY WITH THE SAME ENERGY AND INTEREST AS MY PREDECESSOR. I HAVE ALREADY TAKEN STEPS TO INSURE THAT THESE IMPORTANT EXCHANGES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE CARRIED FORWARD WITH NO LOSS OF MOMENTUM. CONCERNING THE WORK ON BALLISTIC MISSILE ASSISTANCE WHICH DR. JOHN FOSTER, OUR DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING, HAS BEEN DOING WITH YOUR MINISTRY, I WAS PLEASSED TO LEARN THAT M. DEBRE HAD EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION WITH

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

-2- STATE 071935, APR '73

THE EFFORT TO MR. LAIRD LAST SUMMER. IN REVIEWING THE PRESENT STATUS OF THIS COOPERATION, I BECAME AWARE OF THE REQUESTS WHICH M. BLANCARD AND HIS STAFF MADE THIS PAST FALL FOR AN EXPANSION INTO CERTAIN NEW AREAS. WE HAVE REVIEWED THIS QUESTION WITHIN THE US GOVERNMENT AND ARE PREPARED TO MOVE AHEAD IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- PROVIDING INFORMATION ON NUCLEAR EFFECTS SIMULATORS;
- ARRANGING SALES OF SMALL SIMULATORS;
- PROVIDING INFORMATION ON GENERAL HARDENING TECHNOLOGY; AND
- PROVIDING INFORMATION ON SOVIET ABM CHARACTERISTICS.

4. AS IN THE PAST, OUR ASSISTANCE WILL BE MANAGED BY DR. FOSTER'S OFFICE, THROUGH HIS REPRESENTATIVE, MR. G. R. BARSE WHO IS THE U.S. SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT ON THIS PROJECT. DR. FOSTER WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH M. BLANCARD SHORTLY ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THIS ADDITIONAL COOPERATION. I HAVE ASKED TO BE KEPT PERSONALLY INFORMED ABOUT ITS PROGRESS.

5. AS A RESULT OF YOUR EXPERIENCE IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD, I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL BE INTERESTED IN OUR CONTINUED EXCHANGES IN THE REALM OF NUCLEAR SAFETY. AS YOU ARE DOUBTLESS AWARE, EXPERTS OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF GENERAL BARON AND DR. WALSKE, HAVE BEEN MEETING THIS WEEK IN PARIS ON THIS SUBJECT.

6. WITH REGARD TO OTHER AREAS OF US-FRENCH DEFENSE COOPERATION, I NOTE THAT GENERAL MAURIN WILL BE VISITING WASHINGTON LATER THIS MONTH AS THE GUEST OF THE CHAIRMAN OF OUR JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, ADMIRAL MOORER. THIS IS IN LINE WITH THE SUGGESTION MADE BY M. DEBRE TO MR. LAIRD LAST SUMMER THAT OUR TOP MILITARY LEADERS SHOULD MEET PERSONALLY ON A MORE REGULAR BASIS.

7. THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN OFFICIALS OF YOUR MINISTRY AND MY DEPARTMENT ON COCOM AND COMPETITION IN INTERNATIONAL ARMS SALLS, AS WELL AS THE COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN WHICH WE ARE INVOLVED IN THE

DEFENSE AREAS IS ALSO MOST USEFUL, AND I HAVE ASKED MY

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Authority EO 12958  
By W NARA Date 5/1/82

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Department of State

TELETYPE

-3- STATE 071935, APR'73

STAFF TO PURSUE THESE AND ANY OTHER SUBJECTS WHERE MUTUALLY FRUITFUL EXCHANGES MAY BE FEASIBLE.

8. IN CLOSING, I WANT TO AFFIRM MY OWN COMMITMENT TO CONTINUE TO SEEK IMPROVEMENT IN US-FRENCH DEFENSE RELATIONS IN A MANNER WHICH MAXIMIZES THE MUTUAL BENEFIT.

9. WITH BEST REGARDS, SINCERELY, RICHARDSON. UNQUOTE.

ROGERS

TEXT RECEIVED FROM DOD ✓  
4/17/73:22453  
EUR/WE - RDVINE

DOD/ISA - CLLOYD  
EUR - WSTABLER

EUR/WE - EJBEIGEL  
S/S - MR. BARNES

Authority E0129158  
By W. NARA Date 5/1/82

*Sommefeld*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*HS*  
*SA*  
*SG*

~~TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

March 9, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: US Assistance to the French Missile Program

The President has directed the Department of Defense to proceed on an interim basis with limited assistance to France in the areas of (a) information on nuclear effects simulator types, characteristics and usage; (b) the sale of small simulators; (c) general hardening technology applicable to missiles, reentry vehicles and silos; and (d) Soviet ABM information.

All information passed to France on Soviet ABM systems should be developed jointly by the Director of Central Intelligence and the Department of Defense.

This authority for proceeding with limited assistance will remain valid until a basic study has completed and new Presidential guidance has been issued.

*H. A. Kissinger*  
Henry A. Kissinger

cc: The Secretary of State  
Director of Central Intelligence

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XGDS (3)  
DECLAS Indeterminate  
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